

NOTICE OF PROPOSED ACTION
and
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Administrator, Division of Environmental Protection, Carson City, Nevada is issuing the following notice of proposed action and notice of public hearing under the Nevada Revised Statutes and the Clean Water Act. The Administrator has received a complete application for Groundwater Discharge Permit NEV96004 from the following applicant:

Nye County
P.O. Box 887
Tonopah, Nevada 89049

The Nye County Septage and Sludge Drying Site is located at the Pahrump Valley Municipal Landfill (PVML), Pahrump, Nevada. The facility is approximately three miles north of the Pahrump Town Offices and one mile east of State Route 160 on Mesquite Road. The facility is operated by the Nye County Department of Public Works and has been receiving wastewater sludge, domestic septage, and grease trap material since 1982. Wastewater sludge, primarily from local package treatment plants, must be placed in one of the ten concrete-lined, drying beds with leak detection. Septage and grease trap material may be dried in the lined or unlined drying beds. The number of unlined drying beds may be increased from ten to twenty during the term of the permit. The septage and grease trap material must be lime stabilized for pathogen control and vector reduction. Dried sludge and septage is placed in the PVML for ultimate disposal.

On the basis of a preliminary review of the requirements of the Nevada Revised Statutes, as amended, and implementing regulations and 40 CFR Part 503, the Administrator proposes to issue a permit subject to certain limitations and special conditions.

Persons wishing to comment upon or object to the proposed determinations by the Administrator regarding permit issuance should submit their comments, in writing, postmarked within thirty (30) days of newspaper publication, closing at 5:00 P.M. April 8, 2002, either in person or by mail to:

Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
Division of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Water Pollution Control
333 West Nye Lane
Carson City, NV 89706-0851

All comments or objections received within the thirty (30) day period will be considered in the formulation of final determinations regarding the application.

Due to anticipated public interest in this proposed permit, the Division has scheduled a public hearing for 6:00 P.M. April 11, 2002 at the Bob Ruud Community Center, 150 N. Highway 160, Pahrump, Nevada 89060. The purpose of the hearing will be to receive comments from all interested persons, as well as, to answer questions regarding the issuance of the permit. No formal rules of evidence or procedures will apply; there will be no cross-examination. The Division may set a five-minute time limit for oral statements based on the number of people in attendance who would like to comment. The hearing officer will have the right to ask questions of the speakers in order to clarify testimony. Hearing attendees are encouraged to submit materials into the record that they feel are pertinent to the issue(s) and to the decisions under consideration by the Division.

Comments not related to water quality issues cannot be considered in the final determinations. Comments and information may be submitted by interested persons through the close of the hearing. All materials received will be considered in making the final determinations. Following the hearing, a notice of decision will be prepared and mailed to those who commented and/or attended the hearing.

If the final determinations of the Administrator are substantially changed from the tentative determinations, the Administrator will give public notice of the revised determinations. Additional comments and objections will be considered at that time. Copies of the application, proposed permit, comments received, and other information are on file and may be obtained by writing to the above address or by contacting Bruce Holmgren, Bureau of Water Pollution Control (BWPC), at (775) 687-4670, extension 3153 or at bholmgre@ndep.state.nv.us. The BWPC facsimile number is (775) 687-4684.

Members of the public who are disabled and require special accommodations or assistance at the meeting are requested to notify the Division at 333 W.Nye Ln., Carson City, NV 89706-0851 or by contacting Mr. Holmgren, prior to the meeting date.